ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a backlight and a light guide plate, a method of manufacturing a diffuser and the light guide plate, and to a liquid crystal display apparatus, all enabling a cost reduction by reducing the parts count and curtailing unnecessary manufacturing processing. A diffuser 261 has a light distribution layer 181 including a prismatic surface wherein stripe grooves or asperities are arrayed in parallel with each other, a diffusion layer 182 containing diffusion elements 191 for diffusing incident light, and a light incidence control layer 271 including a prismatic surface wherein stripe grooves or asperities are arrayed in parallel on a side of fluorescent tubes 131. The diffusion layer 182 is formed from the same resin, and only the diffusion elements 191 are formed from a different resin. The prism of the light incidence control layer 271 is optimized so as to enhance the proportion, to light being reflected without entering the light incidence control layer 271, of light re-entering other parts of a surface of the light incidence control layer 271, in order to guide incident light toward the diffusion layer 182 efficiently. The present invention is applicable to a backlight of a liquid crystal display apparatus.